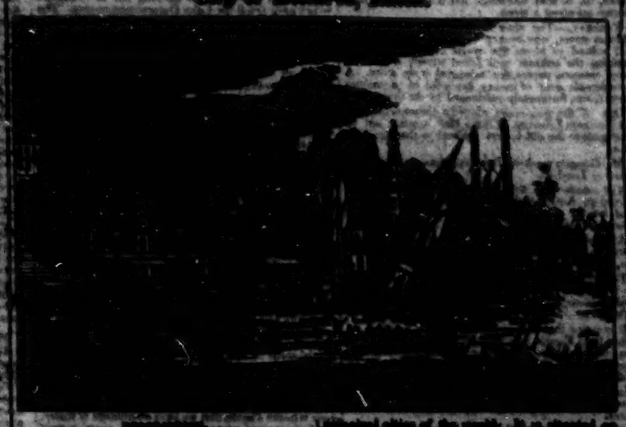
Atkinson's Saturday Evening [illegible]

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, MORALITY, SCIENCE, NEWS, AGRICULTURE AND ART[illegible]

[illegible] No. 311. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 24, 1840. Vol. XII

City of Bussorah, Arabia.



For the Saturday Evening Post.

IMPROMPTU,

Addressed to a young Lady, on observing her drawn on some transparent muslin, upon which is written the word "Oh!" that she had "won't" blotted out.

"The best effect a letter may receive
Discretion knows learn to lay love."
Thomas Moore.

Nay look not there, the love bright eye,
The glances radiant dark as night,
Quench not the flame the wayward boy,
In the young breast hath early lit.

Quench not the spirit's gentle power
The thoughts which from its depths arise,
Like fragrance in the morning hour,
From flowery vales to summer skies.

In by gone days thy noblest minds
The fond approach was wont to greet,
And bless with silent pure the winds,
The sound of his advancing feet.

The flower that in the earth's warm glow
Lifts its bright head to greet the sun,
Will sickly wither, when below
Hears not its earth and morning dew.

Deep love will find affection's balm,
And leave a dark and withering shade
Upon the soul impassing cold.

OSCAR.

A DIGNITY BALL.

The governor's ball was very splendid, but the ladies were rather sulkier from the effects of the climate. However, there were exceptions to be sure, and it was a very delightful night we danced in the splendid hall of Miss Betsy Austin. I slipped away with three other middies[illegible], and we soon arrived there. A crowd of negroes were outside of the house, but the ball had not yet commenced, from the want of gentlemen, the ball being very correct, nothing under mulatto in colour being admitted.—Perhaps I ought to say here, that the progeny of a white and a negro is a mulatto, or half and half, of a white and mulatto, a quadroon, or one quarter black, and of this class the company were chiefly composed. I believe a quadroon and white is also the mulatto or one-eighth black, and the mustee and white, the mustafoon, or one sixteenth black. After that they are white enough, and considered as Europeans. The pride of colour is very great in the West Indies, and they have in many quarterings to a German prince in his coat of arms; a quadroon looks down upon a mulatto, whilst mulatto looks down upon a *mustee*, that is, half mulatto half negro, while a sambo in his turn looks down upon a *nagger*. The quadroons are certainly the handsomest race of women, whole some of the women are really beautiful: their hair is long and perfectly straight, their eyes large and black, their figures perfection, and you can see the colour mantle in their cheeks quite as plainly and with as much effect as in those of a European. We found the door of Miss Austin's house open, and ornamented with orange branches, and on our presenting ourselves, were accosted by a mulatto gentleman, who was, we presumed, "usher of the black rod." His head was well powdered, he was dressed in white jean trowsers, a waistcoat not six inches long, and an half-worn post-captain's coat on, as a livery. With a low bow, he "took the liberty to trouble de gentlemen for de card for de ball," which being produced, we were ushered on by him to the ball-room, at the door of which Miss Austin was waiting to receive her company. She made us a low curtsey, observing, "She really happy to see de gentlemen of de ship, but hoped to see de *officers* also at her *dignity*.

This remark touched our *dignity*, and one of my companions replied "that we midshipmen considered ourselves officers, and no *small* ones either, and that if she waited for the lieutenants she must wait until they were tired of the governor's ball, we having given the preference to her's."

This remark set all to rights, sangaree was handed about, and I looked around at the company. I must acknowledge, at the risk of losing the good opinion of my fair countrywomen, that I never saw before so many pretty figures and faces. The *officers* not having yet arrived, we received all the attention, and I was successively presented to Miss Eurydice, Miss Minerva, Miss Sylvia, Miss Aspasia, Miss Euterpe, and many others, evidently borrowed from the different men-of-war which had been on the station. All these young ladies gave themselves all the airs of Alnaschar's. Their dresses I cannot pretend to describe—jewels of value were not wanting, but their drapery was slight: they appeared neither to wear or to require stays, and on the whole, their figures were so perfect that they could only be ill-dressed by having on too much dress. A few more midshipmen and some lieutenants (O'Brien among the number) having made their appearance, Miss Austin directed that the ball should commence. I requested the honour of Miss Eurydice's hand in a cotillion which was to open the ball. At this moment stepped forth the premier violin, master of the ceremonies, and ballet-master, Massa Johnson, really a very smart man, who gave lessons in dancing to all the "Badian ladies." He was a dark quadroon, his hair slightly powdered, dressed in a light blue coat thrown well back, to show his lily white waistcoat, only one button of which he could afford to button to make full room for the pride of his heart, the frill of his shirt, which was inclined *en Jabot superb*, four inches wide, and extending from his collar to the waistband of his manikeen tights, which were finished off at his knees with huge bunches of ribbon; his legs were encased in silk stockings, which, however, was not very good taste on his part, as they showed the manifest advantage which an European has over a coloured man in the formation of the leg, instead of being straight, his shins curved like a cheese-knife, and, moreover, his leg was planted into his foot like the handle into a broom or scrubbing-brush, there being quite as much of the foot on the heel side as on the toe side. Such was the appearance of Mr. Apollo Johnson, whom the ladies pronounced to be the prince of the gentlemen of colour. His address was in keeping with his appearance, and he commenced with Miss Eurydice. The cotillion over, I danced with Miss Minerva. The cotillion commenced brown and ended white, the ladies all changing partners, and then [illegible] to see if all were right, and then with a wave of his fan—but the music began, "Come Badian no," cried Apollo to O'Brien, "you no dance, you no Badian." "Yes I will, I'll dance with the devil himself, if you'll only introduce me to your partner." "Yes Badian, you shall dance with me," said Miss Minerva, "if you will promise to dance with no one else." "Agreed," said O'Brien, "I'll dance with you all night." "Yes Badian, you shall dance all night

PHILADELPHIA:
Saturday, October 18, 1856.

EDITORIAL.

The Evening and Weekly editions of this Journal will be issued from the Office, No. 417 Chestnut Street, on and after Monday next.

We have received the Annual Report of the Trustees of the Girard College for Orphans, for the year ending the first Monday in August, 1856. It is a document of much interest, and we shall refer to it hereafter.

The Mayor of Philadelphia has issued his proclamation, offering a reward of $100 for the apprehension of the murderer of Policeman Wood, who was killed on Wednesday night last, in the discharge of his duty.

The Democratic Meeting at Independence Square, on Thursday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

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The Democratic Meeting at Moyamensing, on Friday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at West Philadelphia, on Saturday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at Germantown, on Monday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

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The Democratic Meeting at Frankford, on Thursday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at Bridesburg, on Friday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at Richmond, on Saturday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at Port Richmond, on Monday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic Meeting at Kensington, on Tuesday evening last, was addressed by Hon. Wm. Bigler, Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Hon. Thomas Ross, and Hon. Wm. H. Witte. The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

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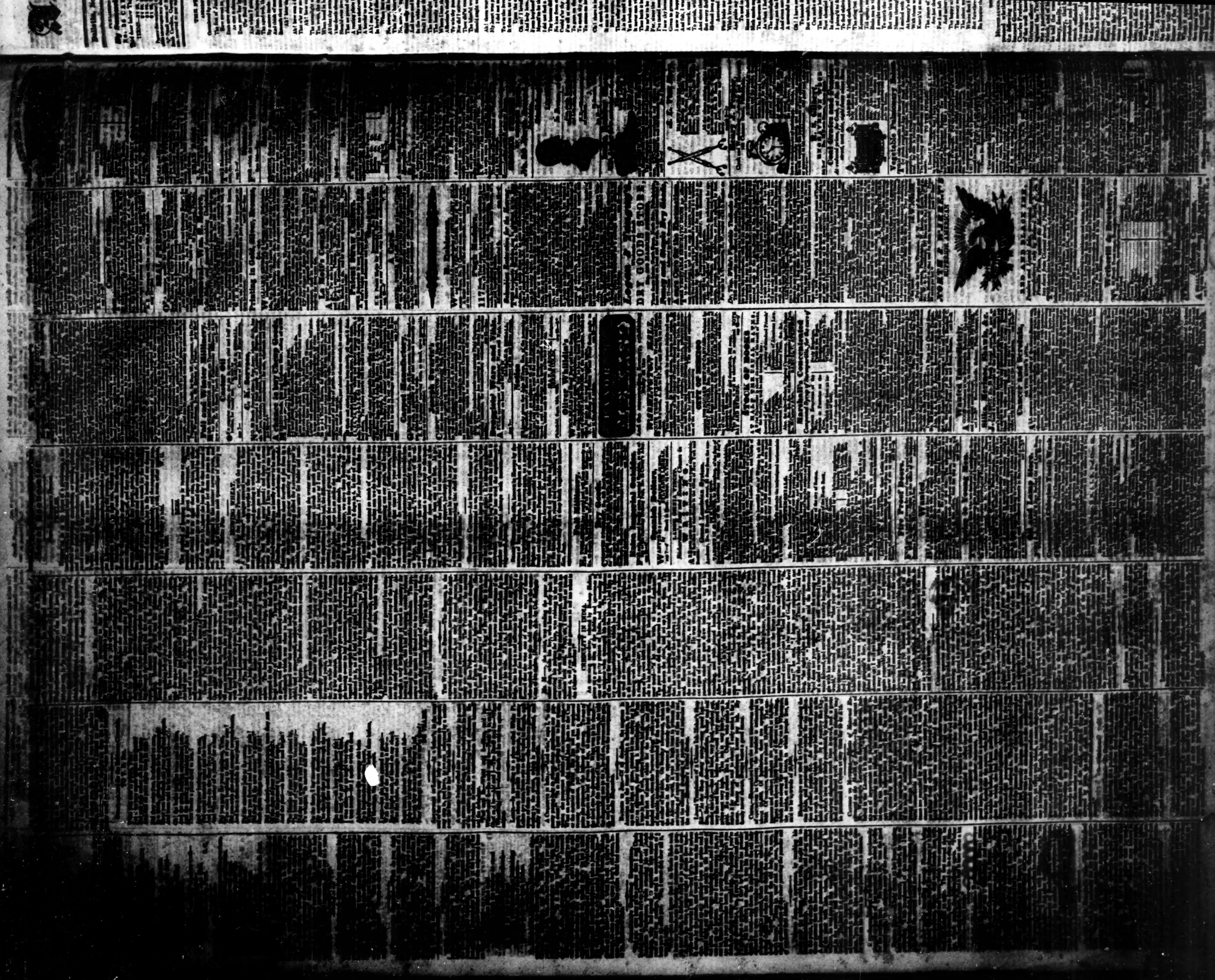
The Democratic Meeting at Kensington, on Friday